



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/032,945	09/27/2001	Manoel Tenorio	020431.0953	7105
53184	7590	12/15/2005	EXAMINER	
i2 TECHNOLOGIES US, INC. ONE i2 PLACE, 11701 LUNA ROAD DALLAS, TX 75234			AIRAPETIAN, MILA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3625	
DATE MAILED: 12/15/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/032,945	TENORIO, MANOEL	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Mila Airapetian	3625	

**– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/01/2005</u>  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

01/13/2004

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

Applicant's amendment received on 10/11/2005 is acknowledged and entered.

The applicant has amended claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-20, 22-31. Currently, claims 1-32 are pending for examination.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-20, 22-31 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

**Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-13, 16-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jammes et al. (Jammes) (US 6,484,149).**

**Claim 1.** Jammes teaches a system for operating an electronic store comprising:

one or more seller databases including product data for one or more products  
(col. 3, lines 7-12);

a seller selection interface operable to receive one or more seller requirements from a user (col. 49, lines 22-30);

a global content directory server associated with the seller selection interface, the global content directory server operable to generate one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements (col. 3, lines 60-64);

one or more custom global content directories each including a plurality of product classes organized in a hierarchy, each product class categorizing a plurality of products from one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements and each product class associated with one or more attributes of the products categorized in the product class, (col. 3, lines 28-32; col. 4, lines 22- 28), at least one of the product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify one or more seller databases associated with sellers satisfying the seller requirements (col. 23, lines 50-58).

a search interface associated with the custom global content directories, the search interface operable to communicate a search query to the seller databases to search the product data stored in the seller databases identified by one of the pointers (Fig. 7D(776); col. 26, lines 17-27) .

**Claim 2.** Jammes teaches said system further operable to:

receive one or more product requirements from a user (col. 47, line 9) and

generate one or more custom global content directories based on the product requirements (col. 53, lines 58-64).

**Claim 4.** Jammes teaches said system wherein one or more of the pointers identify particular product data in one or more of the seller databases where the product data is associated with sellers satisfying the seller requirements (col. 23, lines 50-58).

**Claim 6.** Jammes teaches said system wherein the search interface is further operable to: receive search results from one or more of the seller databases in response to the search query, the search results including product data associated with one or more products satisfying the search query and from sellers satisfying the seller requirements; and communicate the search results to the user (col. 26, lines 17-27).

**Claim 7.** Jammes teaches said system wherein the one or more the custom global content directories are further operable to:

receive a selection from the user of a product for which product data is included in the search results (col. 26, lines 17-27); and

communicate address information associated with a seller database that includes product data for the selected product, the address information enabling the user to communicate with a seller associated with the seller database who satisfy the seller requirements to conduct a commerce transaction relating to the selected product (col. 7, lines 8-11).

**Claim 8.** Jammes teaches said system wherein the one or more custom global content directories comprise one or more private global content directories containing product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify product data only available to one or more buyers associated with the private global content directory (col. 4, lines 22-28).

**Claim 9.** Jammes teaches said system wherein the seller selection interface is further operable to receive an access code from the buyer, the access code operable to allow the buyer to search the product data associated with the private global content directories (col. 49, lines 28-30; col. 54, lines 58-65).

**Claim 10.** Jammes teaches a method for operating an electronic store comprising:

receiving one or more seller requirements from a user (col. 49, lines 22-30);

creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements, the custom global content directory comprising a directory structure including a plurality of product classes organized in a hierarchy, each product class categorizing a plurality of products from one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements and each product class associated with one or more attributes of the

products categorized in the product class (col. 3, lines 28-32), one or more of the product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify a one or more seller databases associated with sellers satisfying the seller requirements (col. 23, lines 50-58);

receiving a selection of a product class from the user, the product class having a pointer identifying one or more of the seller databases (Abstract, col. 11, lines 54-58);

in response to the selection of the product class by the user, communicating a search query to the seller databases to search the product data (Abstract, col. 11, lines 54-58).

**Claim 11.** Jammes teaches said method wherein one or more of the pointers identify particular product data in one or more of the seller databases where the product data is for sellers satisfying the seller requirements (col. 23, lines 50-58).

**Claim 12.** Jammes teaches said method further comprising: receiving one or more product requirements from a user (col. 11, lines 54-58); and

generating one or more custom global content directories based on the product requirements (col. 54, lines 57-67; col. 55, lines 1-12).

**Claim 13.** Jammes teaches said method wherein creating the custom global content directory comprises associating the product classes with product data for one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements (col. 3, lines 28-32; col. 4, lines 22-28).

**Claim 16.** Jammes teaches said method wherein communicating a search query to the seller databases comprises communicating the search query to the seller databases associated with the sellers that satisfy the seller requirements (col. 26, lines 18-27).

**Claim 17.** Jammes teaches said method further comprising: receiving search results from one or more of the seller databases in response to the search query, the search results including product data associated with one or more products satisfying

the search query from the sellers satisfying the seller requirements; and communicating the search results to the user (col. 26, lines 17-27).

**Claim 18.** Jammes teaches said method further comprising:

receiving a selection from the user of a product for which product data is included in the search results (col. 26, lines 17-27); and

communicating address information associated with a seller database that includes product data for the selected product, the address information enabling the user to communicate with a seller associated with the seller database to conduct a commerce transaction relating to the selected product (col. 7, lines 8-11).

**Claim 19.** Jammes teaches said method wherein creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements comprises creating one or more private global content directories containing product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify product data only available to one or more buyers associated with the private global content directory (col. 3, lines 28-32; col. 4, lines 22-28).

**Claim 20.** Jammes teaches said method further comprising receiving an access code from the buyer, the access code operable to allow the buyer to access a private global content directory (col. 49, lines 29-30).

**Claims 21-32.** These claims are rejected on the same rationale as set forth above in Claims 1-9.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and

Art Unit: 3625

the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 3, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jammes in view of Giovannoli (US 5,758,328).**

**Claim 3.** Jammes teaches all the limitations of claim 3 including generating custom global content directories where the pointers identify seller databases in the languages corresponding to the geographic location of the user (Jammes, col. 3, lines 28-32; col. 4, lines 22- 28), except that said system is further operable to determine a geographic location for the user and one or more languages that correspond to the geographic location of the user.

Giovannoli teaches a method and system for conducting communications between buyers and sellers over a network, including an interface configured to determine a geographic location for the user and one or more languages that correspond to the geographic location of the user (col. 5, lines 9-12; col. 7, lines 9-14), ("...select vendors ... who meet any other conditions set by the requesting buyer (e.g. language..., or vendor location"; "a buyer who specifies vendors of volt meters in New York State will reach more vendors than if New York City alone were specified").

The motivation to combine Jammes and Giovanolli teachings would be to allow the buyers to choose sellers from locations that would be preferable from delivery and shipping cost points of views.

**Claim 14.** Jammes teaches all the limitations of claim 14 except providing multi-language support based upon the geographic location of the user.

Giovannoli teaches providing multi-language support based upon the geographic location of the user (col. 5, lines 9-12, col. 7, lines 9-14), ("...select vendors ... who meet any other conditions set by the requesting buyer (e.g. language..., or vendor location").



The motivation to combine Jammes and Giovannoli would be to expand business into foreign countries, resulting in increase of revenue and profits for sellers.

**Claim 15.** Jammes teaches all the limitations of claim 15 including creating the custom global content directory using the seller requirements (col. 3, lines 28-32; col. 4, lines 22-28) except that said method comprises: determining a geographic location for the user; determining one or more languages that correspond to the geographic location of the user.

Giovannoli teaches a method and system for conducting communications between buyers and sellers over a network, including an interface configured to determine a geographic location for the user and one or more languages that correspond to the geographic location of the user (col. 5, lines 9-12; col. 7, lines 9-14), (“...select vendors ... who meet any other conditions set by the requesting buyer (e.g. language..., or vendor location”; “a buyer who specifies vendors of volt meters in New York State will reach more vendors than if New York City alone were specified”).

The motivation to combine Jammes and Giovanolli teachings would be to allow the buyers to choose sellers from locations that would be preferable from delivery and shipping cost points of views.

**Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jammes in view of Van Etten et al. (US 2005/0261983).**

**Claim 5.** Jammes teaches all the limitations of claim 5 except said system wherein the search query comprises desired values, specified by the user, for one or more of the product attributes associated with the selected product class.

Van Etten teaches a procurement system wherein the search query comprises desired values, specified by the user, for one or more of the product attributes associated with the selected product class [0031].

The motivation to combine Jammes and Van Etten is that the use of the class/attribute/value approach permits a comparison of multiple items that meet the parametric search criteria and the selection of the item that meets the buyer's specific requirements [0033].

### **Conclusion**

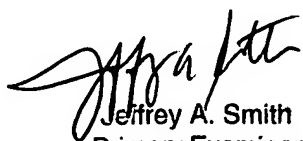
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

(i) US 2005/0197907 to Weiss discloses computer-implemented method and apparatus for inventory management.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mila Airapetian whose telephone number is (571) 272-3202. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30 am - 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on (571) 272-7159. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Jeffrey A. Smith  
Primary Examiner

Mila Airapetian  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3625